

THE FALCON'S FOCUS



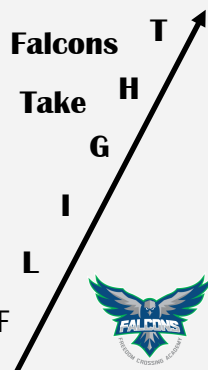
Freedom Crossing Academy Newsletter

January, 30th 2019



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Falcon Families,

We hope you are staying warm during these cool days. Many of us are very thankful we have left the bitter cold of the north where we still have family. Sorry there is so much to share this time.

Social Media – Over the past few weeks we have dealt with a few issues that started with Social Media. It is our hope that we can partner with our families to help our children navigate this new arena. The issues that we have had to deal with occurred outside of school, but have had an impact on the school day. As a school 6th graders may listen to music or an audio book outside of the classroom. All personal electronic devices may be used in the classroom only under the direction of the teacher. Today's technology can be a great tool, we want to help our students use it in appropriate ways. As a school we have and will continue to teach about use and safety with Electronic devices. In a couple weeks, we will also offer an after-school club for 4th – 6th graders on Social Media (more on that later). We will also have an evening event to help our parents with Social Media and how it impacts our children. For now here is a link to a website that offers some tips to parents.

<https://www.parenting.com/gallery/social-media-monitoring-kids?page=0>

Another tip that I found successful is random checks of my child's device – at any time. We look forward to partnering with our families to help our children find success in this every changing world of communication.

Home Access Center (HAC) – We understand that there were some changes made to HAC about the same time reports cards were published. If you want to see the report card a helpful tip is to hit the print icon to get the traditional report card view.

Dress Code – I know with all the cold weather this is a strange time to address a dress code. After much work and discussion we have refined our dress code. With changing fashion trends this is harder than one may think. This dress code is in line with other schools and the St. Johns County School District. The dress code has been reviewed with our 6th graders and we will continue to review with other grades as well. Please take a couple minutes and review the dress code attachment.

6th Grade Tardies – Parents of 6th Graders. We have also established a tardy policy with our students. While this is not a big problem, we wanted to be pro-active with our students. It also helps that we now have a bell system that we have confidence in. We have addressed this with our students and have attached it for your review.

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Safety at FCA - As we have many new families that have joined us, I wanted to send out some safety items. Please know that everyone must be an approved volunteer and show ID in order to enter the building. We hold several drills during the year. These drills include monthly fire drills. We also hold High Winds, Lockdown, and evacuations drills two times each year. One change that we are making is to assign a random individual the responsibility of calling a drill. This way we all go through the process as if it were an actual event. We believe this will help us learn and better prepare. Earlier this year we went over some 'Always Rules' with our students and gave presentations in conjunction with local Law Enforcement. We have attached the "Always Rules" for your review as well.

New School - With the new school we know we have some issues that we will continue to work through. Recently we discovered that a part that was used for our swings was part of a recall. We immediately closed the swings and have had the part replaced. Currently, we are working with contractor to get our fields in a condition for use.

Retest Policy - I recently met with some of our students. When asked about some things they are thankful for about FCA, several stated that they like the retake policy that we have. We are focused on our students learning the things that they need to know. We believe that a student's grade should be an accurate reflection of the knowledge they have. As we have been working through this we have determined that we cannot retest everything. We also recognize that there are certain standards that are more important than others. Currently, our teams are working on determining those critical elements at each grade level. In order to allow teams time to focus on what is most important, they are being given the opportunity to focus on the most important standards and only retest on those items. This is a much longer conversation, but know our goal at FCA is to prepare our students with the skills they will need to be successful in their future.

Counselor's Corner: We will be partnering with the Monique Burr Foundation for Children to deliver a program called Child Safety Matters during our guidance lessons with our K-5th grade students. The lessons will begin in a few weeks. Please be on the look-out for a permission slip coming home with your student. This comprehensive program is research-based and follows best practices for prevention education. Talking points revolve around staying safe, which will include bullying, cyberbullying, all types of child abuse, digital abuse, and other digital dangers. Each of the four lessons is grade appropriate. Information and follow-up activities will be sent home twice throughout the program for you to talk with your student about at home.

For additional information or resources please visit: www.mbfpreventioneducation.org. There is also a free "Child Safety Matters" app from the App Store or Google Play.

Have a great week and GO FALCONS!!!

Principal Allen Anderson

Important Dates

2018-2019 FCA Calendar



2018-2019 SJCS D Calendar

Thursday, Jan 31 – Basketball (Away vs. VRA)

Thursday, Jan 31 - Last Day to order Yearbook

Saturday, Feb 2 – Character Counts Run – 3 or 6K runs

Friday, Feb 15 - No School for students

Monday, Feb 18 - No School for teachers & students

Friday, Mar 1 - Daddy Daughter Dance - More info to come

Monday, Mar 4 - Friday, Mar 8 - FCA Book Fair

Tuesday, Mar 5 - Book Fair open from 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Tuesday, Mar 5 - Band Concert 6pm

Yearbook Orders

LAST CHANCE

Order Your
YEARBOOK



Freedom Crossing Academy

Order online

www.leonards.com/yearbooks

Access code: C463360

It's time to order your yearbook!

Order now!

Pre-order by January 31, 2019 to guarantee a yearbook.

Price

\$30.00

To pay by cash, check, or money order, complete the order form envelope and return to your school.

Make checks or money orders payable to: Leonard's

Price includes sales tax. Exact amount - No change given
Los taxes estan incluidos en los precios. Cantidad exacta - No sera dado cambio

FCA Field Day



Athletics

2018/2019 Girls & Boys Basketball Schedule

Girls @ 5:30pm

Boys @ 6:30pm



Thurs, Jan. 31 @ VRA (Away)

Tues, Feb. 5 @ PVA (Away)

Thurs, Feb. 7 @ PVA (Home)

Tues, Feb. 12 @ POA (Away)

Tues, Feb. 14 @ MCA (Home)

Thurs, Feb. 21 Vs. LPA (Home)

Tues, Feb. 26 @ MCA (Away)

Gifted Advisory Meetings

The Gifted Parent Advisory Council meets four times per year to inform the school district about ways in which we can improve our efforts in serving our gifted students. Parents of K-12 gifted students from throughout the district are encouraged to come to all of the meetings.

Gifted Parent Advisory Council and Parent Trainings 2019

Thursday, February 28th @ Freedom Crossing Academy - 6:30pm—8pm Media Center

Tuesday, April 23rd @ Palm Valley Academy - 6:30pm—8pm Media Center

FCA Book Fair



Monday, March 4th thru Friday, March 8th

Open During School Hours

This year the Book Fair will also be open two nights!!!

Friday, Mar. 1st - Book Fair opens at 6pm - Swing by before the Daddy Daughter Dance

Tuesday, Mar. 5th - Book Fair is open from 5:30pm - 6:30pm. Swing by before the Band Concert.

Parent Advisory Meeting

BROOKS Rehabilitation Pediatric Recreation

THE ESE PARENT ADVISORY, ST JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION WELCOMES

Maggie Maurice, CTRS – Program Coordinator
Megan Hyman M.S., OT/L – Pediatric Community
Programs Manager

FOR AN OVERVIEW ON:

Pediatric Recreation Free programs offered by Brooks Rehabilitation for kids age birth - 17
Goal: To provide parents with information regarding FREE recreational activities in their community.

Location: SJCS District Office – 40 Orange Street St. Augustine, FL 32084

Date/Time: 02/12/19 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Access to FCA & Picking up Children

You must show your Drivers License I.D.

- Even if we know you -

You must present your Drivers License
every time to access FCA or to pick up your children.

This requirement is a state law as well as a district policy.

We appreciate all of our Falcon Families helping us uphold this law.

Clinic News



Clinic News/Information: Parents ~ Accidents happen



Please make sure that your younger students have a change of clothes in their backpack for bathroom accidents, spills, puddles etc... It can save a trip to school for clean clothes. I have a limited amount of clothes in the clinic and most of them are summer clothes. Maybe add a pair of pants to the backpack during these cold months.



HELP KEEP OUR STUDENTS HEALTHY

Please be aware that St John's County School District Policy states that children must be fever free (under 100.0 degrees) for 24 hours WITHOUT medication before returning to school. If they are sent home from school with a fever, they should not return to school the next day. And as always, remind your child the importance of frequent handwashing.

Pokey Says



The moon is a reminder that
no matter what phase you are in..
You are still whole.